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Barbers Point Solar Project

Hawaiian Homes Commission

September 21, 2021

Agenda Item G-7

Draft Environmental Assessment

Informational Briefing



Purpose of Briefing

- Update the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) on the proposed Barbers Point Solar Project located on DHHL owned lands in east Kalaheo
- Present summary highlights of the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)
- Notify the HHC prior to the publication of the DEA for public comment next month.



Presentation Outline

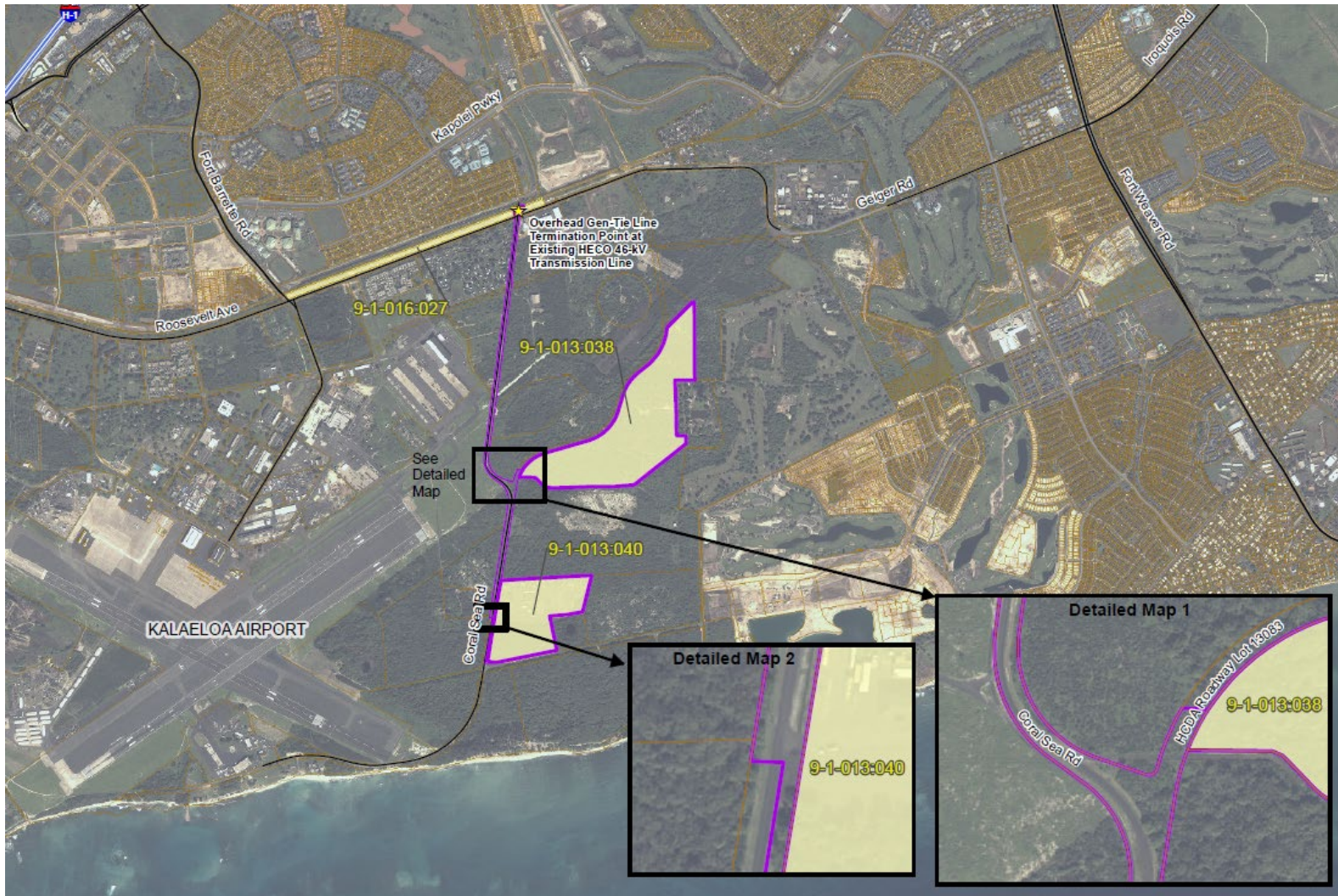
- Project Description
- Project Background
- Summary of Highlights from the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)
- The Criteria for Finding of No Significant Impact to satisfy Chapter 343, HRS
- Project Schedule



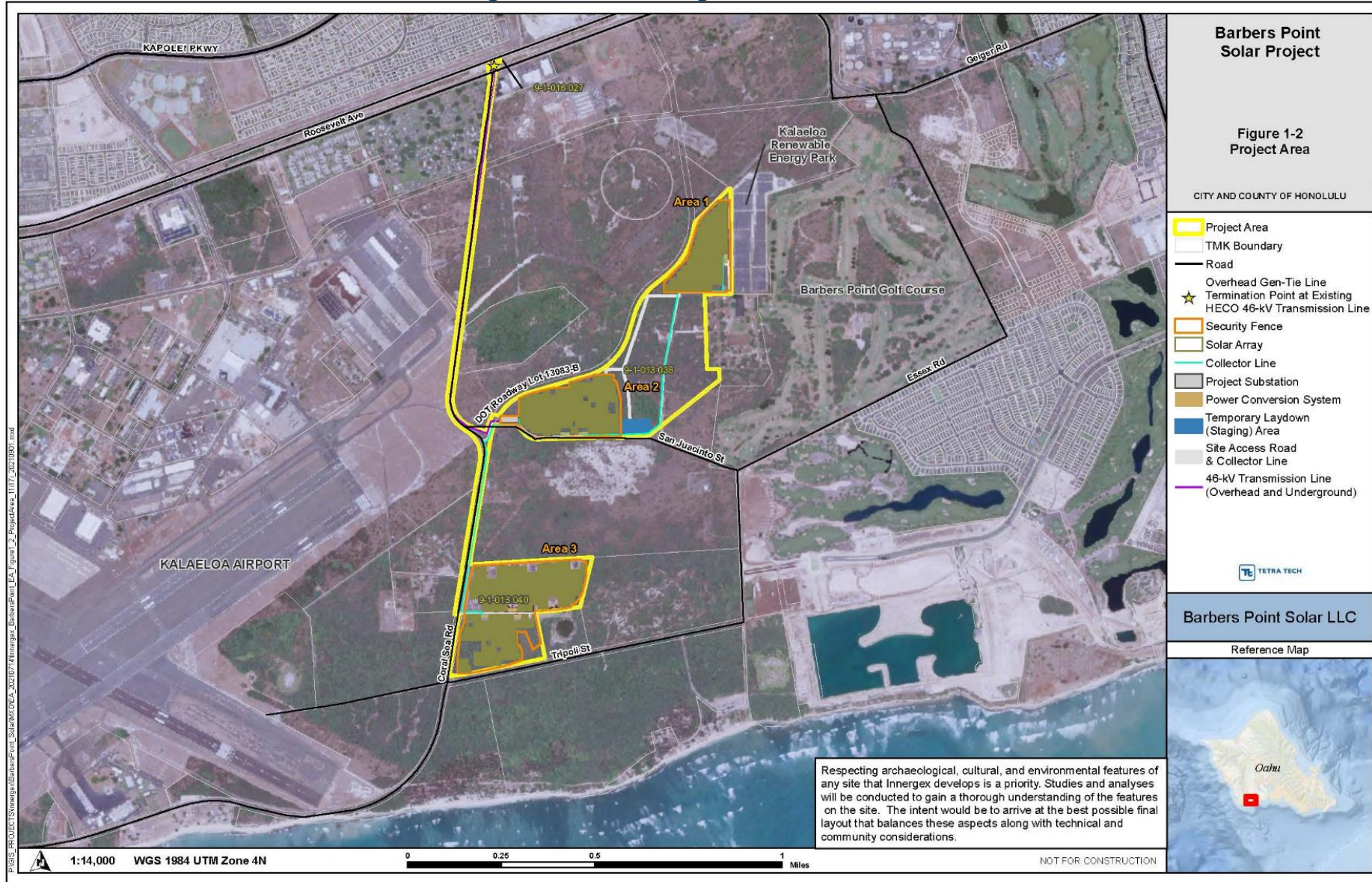
Barbers Point Solar Project Description

The solar + battery energy storage project is proposed on DHHL owned TMKs 9-1-013:038 and 9-1-013:040, in east Kalaheo.

The project also includes a generation tie-line in DOT right-of-way associated with Coral Sea Road ending at TMK 9-1-016:027 where it will connect into the HECO grid.

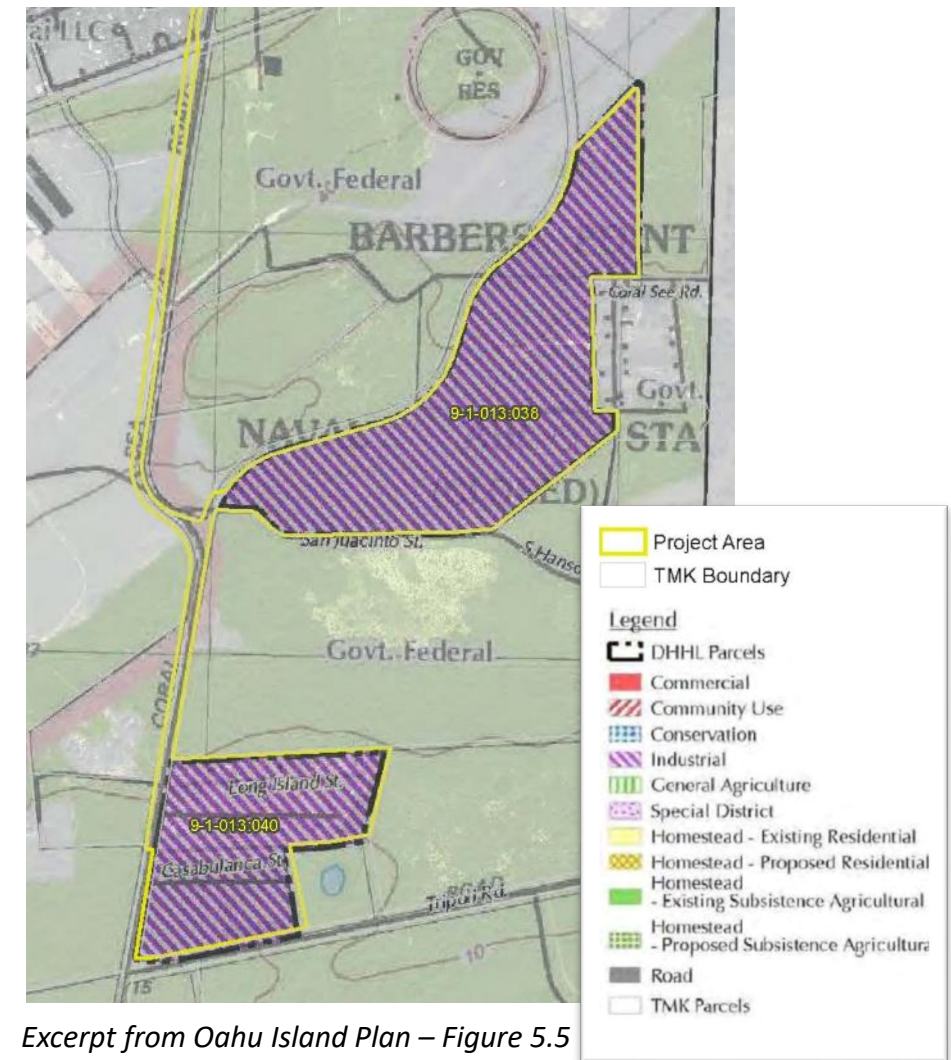


Barbers Point Solar Project Layout



Project Background

- In 1996, Parcels 38 and 40 transferred from the U.S. Navy to DHHL as part of settlement agreement under Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act.
- DHHL's 2010 Kapolei Regional Plan designated the two DHHL parcels in the Project area as "Mixed Use" and intended for revenue generation as the parcels lack infrastructure for residential development.
- DHHL's 2014 Oahu Island Plan designated the lands makai of Roosevelt Avenue within Kalaeloa for industrial use.
- The Project will directly support Objective 2 of the Ho'omalūō Energy Policy
- The Project will support Energy Partnership Charter DHHL and HECO entered into in August 2009.



Project Background

- In 2018 and in 2019, DHHL ran consecutive competitive solicitation processes for the disposition of these sites by general leases for renewable energy projects.
- Innergex/Barbers Point Solar, LLC was selected as the final applicant for the proposed project site and to continue with the leasing process that included consultation meetings with DHHL's beneficiaries and public hearings.
- In July 2019, the HCC authorized the Chairman to issue a Right-of-Entry permit to Innergex Renewables USA LLC.



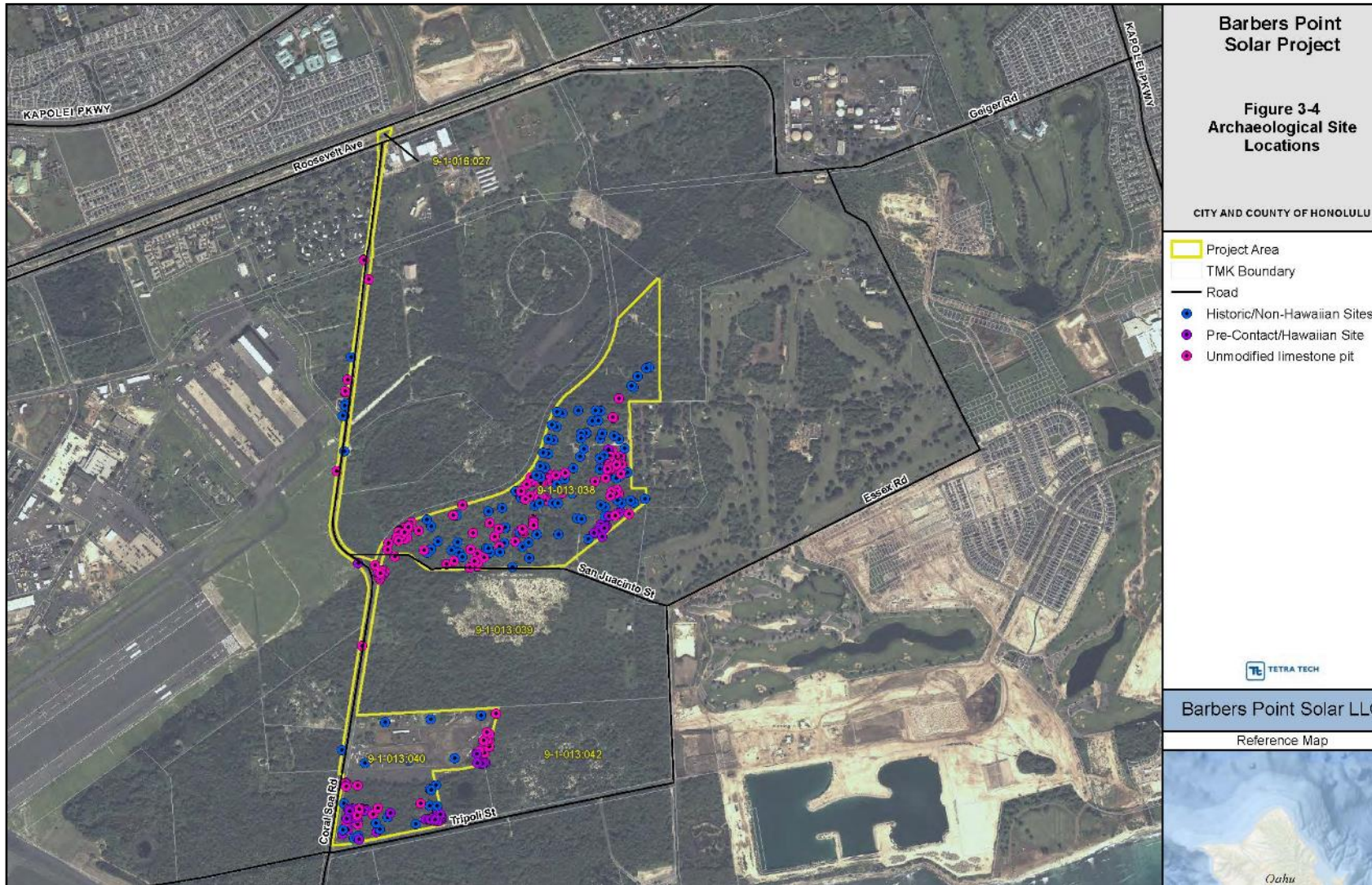
Highlights from Draft EA

Technical studies conducted:

- Archaeological Inventory Survey (AIS), a draft of which has been submitted and is pending review by the SHPD in compliance with HRS Chapter 6E and HAR §13-284;
- Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) to evaluate the potential effect of the Project on cultural beliefs, practices, and resources, including traditional cultural properties;
- Biological Resources Survey and Supplemental 'Akoko Survey;
- Visual Impact Assessment Report;
- Glare Analysis Report; and
- Transportation Impact Analysis



Historic Properties

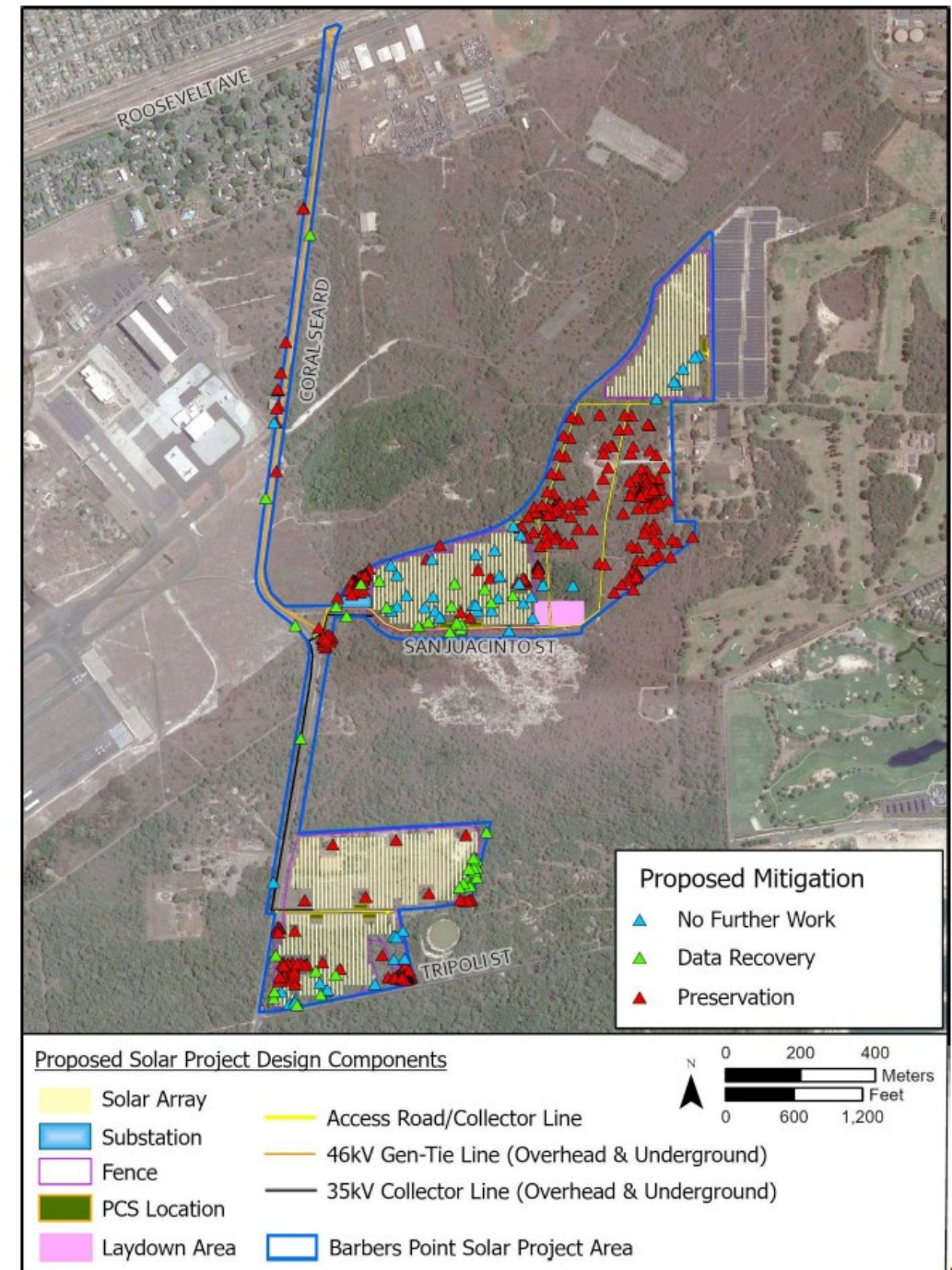


17 historic properties documented by AIS containing 438 archaeological features.

Two concentrations of traditional Hawaiian historic properties: southern portion of Parcel 40 and southeastern portion of Parcel 38.

Historic Properties – Potential Effect and Minimization Measures

- 348 of 438 total documented features to be preserved.
- Project will potentially impact 90 of the 438 documented features.
 - 42 features mitigated through data recovery.
 - 48 features (all associated with military infrastructure from mid-20th century) adequately documented; recommended for no further work.
- Effect determination for the Project is anticipated to be “effect, with proposed mitigation commitments.”



Cultural Resources

- Cultural Impact Assessment prepared.
- Scoping letters sent to 15 individuals who are affiliated with a range of organizations.
- 6 responded with one providing e-mail correspondence and two kama'āina and/or kūpuna participating in formal interviews:
 - Mr. Shad Kane
 - Ms. Keala Norman
 - Mr. Mana Caceres
- Site visit occurred June 17, 2021 with three CIA participants.



Cultural Resources

- Archival research and mo'olelo (oral traditions) indicated that the Kualaka'i Trail passed near to the Project area.
- Sinkholes in the larger general area were utilized as natural planters for dryland crops, temporary shelters, storage features, and sources of water.
- Kahua (an open place for sports), or makahiki grounds, as well as numerous trails in the area that connected to trails in the Kalaeloa Heritage Park.
- CIA found that no cultural practices have been occurring presently in the Project area from the Pre-Contact era or Post-Contact era periods.



Figure 280. SIHP 50-80-12-05106, Feature 69 modified pit (view to northwest).

Cultural Resources

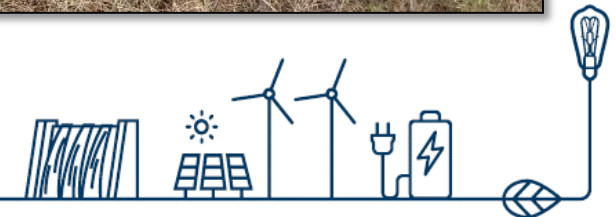
- Potential for limestone pit features to contain ancestral burials (iwi kupuna) was a shared primary concern of those interviewed for the AIS and CIA.
- Development of an archaeological data recovery program and archaeological monitoring during construction are recommended.
- The cultural descendants who participated in the CIA should be further consulted to develop protocols for the appropriate protection and preservation of sites, and these protocols should be recognized in future land uses and transactions. Their mana'o on procedures for clearing, caring for, and reactivating the kahua would be invaluable as well.



Figure 250. SIHP 50-80-12-05106, Feature 52 modified limestone pit (view to east-southeast).

Biological Resources

- Surveys conducted in 2020 and 2021 including:
 - General Plant and Wildlife Survey
 - Pueo Survey
 - 'Akoko Survey
- Project area has been extensively disturbed and modified by the previous military use, current activities, and the introduction of invasive species, which has resulted in a reduction of native species and suitable habitats for native species.



Biological Resources

- No listed plants observed in the Project area.
- The Project area is dominated by non-native vegetation, measures would be implemented to avoid or minimize impacts to the wiliwili trees on the site and the endangered 'akoko known to occur nearby (off site), implementation of the Project is not expected to have a significant impact on vegetation.
- Most of the wildlife in the Project area is non-native to the Hawaiian Islands, and native habitats have been disturbed by previous activities and the introduction of invasive species, which has reduced the presence of native wildlife.
- Potential impacts and associated mitigation measures specific to listed wildlife species, as recommended by USFWS and DOFAW will be implemented. The Project is not expected to have a significant impact on native or listed wildlife.



Visual Resources

- Due to the Project area's flat terrain and surrounding vegetation, the Project would be discernable at locations adjacent or near the Project site but would not be viewable from surrounding areas.
- The visual impact analysis shows that in many cases the Project will be partially or fully screened by existing vegetation. The Project is expected to have minimal or no significant impact on scenic and visual resources.



Glare and FAA Determination of No Hazard

- A glare analysis was conducted and no glare was predicted for selected observation around the Project area.
- Limited amounts of green glare are predicted at Kalaeloa Airport Runways 22L and 22R and the potential occurrence of glare is limited (less than 7.2 percent of annual daylight hours). No yellow or red glare is predicted at any of the receptors. Glare impacts associated with the Project are expected to be minimal.
- FAA conducted an aeronautical study and concluded that the proposed structures do not exceed obstruction standards and would not be a hazard to air navigation.



Transportation and Traffic

- Project construction is not expected to measurably affect overall level of service at the signalized intersections adjacent to the Project area. However, construction could result in temporary, minor, localized impacts to traffic and the roadway network.
- To reduce potential traffic impacts, a traffic management plan for the Project's construction phase will be developed.
- During the operational phase of the Project, impacts on traffic are expected to be negligible given the low frequency and volume of vehicles accessing the Project Study Area for operations and maintenance.



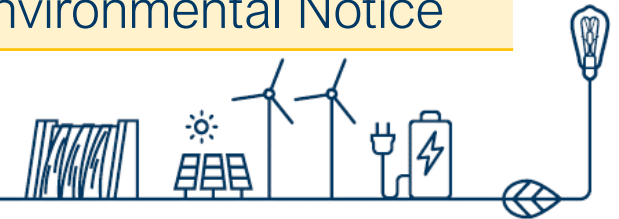
Chapter 343 Significance Criteria

Based upon the analysis completed in the DEA, DHHL staff anticipates a finding of no significant impact for the Project. This determination is based upon the 13 criteria of significance that approving agencies must consider as specified in Hawai'i Administrative Rules 11-200.1-13.



Next Steps for Completing the Environmental Process

October 8, 2021	DEA anticipated to be published in Environmental Review Program's publication of the Environmental Notice
October 8 – November 8, 2021	30-day public comment period on the DEA
October 20, 2021	Virtual Public Open House during comment period
December 2021	Revise DEA per public comments and complete Final Environmental Assessment (FEA)
December 2021	Present FEA to HHC; HHC issues Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) declaration for the project
January 2022	HHC FONSI declaration for the project and FEA submitted to the Environmental Review Program for publication in the Environmental Notice



Next Steps for Overall Project Implementation

Permit/Approval	Regulating Agency	Status
HRS Chapter 343 Compliance Development Permit	DHHL (approving agency)	Draft EA published for public review
Variance	HCDA	Application to be submitted following HRS Chapter 343 EA process
CUP	HCDA	Application to be submitted following HRS Chapter 343 EA process
HRS Chapter 6E Compliance (Historic Preservation Review)	SHPD	Draft AIS submitted to SHPD for review on September 8, 2021
NPDES Permit	DOH, Clean Water Branch	To be obtained prior to construction
Community Noise Permit	DOH, Indoor and Radiological Health Branch	To be obtained prior to construction
Building Permit	DPP	To be obtained prior to construction
Grading and Grubbing Permit	DPP	To be obtained prior to construction
Use and Occupancy Permit	HDOT	To be obtained prior to construction, as applicable
Permit to Perform Work Upon State Highways	HDOT	To be obtained prior to construction, as applicable
Weekly Lane Closure Form	HDOT	To be obtained prior to construction, as applicable
Permit to Operate or Transport Oversize and/or Overweight Vehicles and Loads	HDOT	To be obtained prior to construction, as applicable
Movement of Oversize and/or Overweight Vehicles and Loads Permit	DTS	To be obtained prior to construction, as applicable
Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration (Form 7460-1)	FAA	To be submitted prior to construction
Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration (Form 7460-2, Part 2)	FAA	To be submitted within 5 days after construction reaches its greatest height

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